

insane aunt, had convulsions just after infancy. Had an epileptic attack when she saw her father after death; had an epileptic crisis; manifested thievish propensities and violence toward children.

5. A girl, seven years old, saw her father's corpse, and became epileptic, with weekly attacks.

6. A young woman, twenty-one, had a most dreadful fright. Her father fell from a roof and was killed before her eyes. She had a convulsive crisis, and gradually these increased to five or six each month.

7. A woman, twenty-three, saw, when ten years old, a dead man, after which she had attacks of nocturnal epilepsy; became strange and impulsive.

8. A woman twenty-five years old saw and embraced her father when dead. Immediately she had an epileptic attack. These occurred each month. She became enuretic.

On General Pseudo-Paralysis by Slow Intoxication from the Oxide of Carbon. By Dr. GIUSEPPE MUSSO. *Revista Clinica*, August, 1885.

The writer of this article compares the slow poisoning by the fumes of carbonic di-oxide to alcoholic, syphilitic, and lead poisoning, claiming that it presents as definite a clinical picture as either of these three in their constitutional effects upon the system. To support his opinion he reports five cases and arrives at the following conclusions: That persons who are shut up for many hours in a day during a time varying from a few weeks to two or three months, breathing an atmosphere vitiated by the fumes of carbon, develop serious alterations of the sensibility of mobility of the intellect and of the vaso-motor innervation.

There is presented a complexity of symptoms which resemble very closely those of general progressive paralysis. In those afflicted with this disease the etiological factors, the clinical aspect, the possibility of healing, show that the process is neither a pathological nor inflammatory nor degenerative one, but that it attacks directly the nerve centres and is an intoxication of these.

Of the chronic poisoning by the gases of carbon, Dr. Moreau wrote in 1876. He thus describes the symptoms with which those cited by Dr. Musso coincide.

The first period, which is compatible with a certain degree of physical and psychical health, is characterized by a heaviness of the head, intense cephalalgia, sense of pressure about the temples, singing in the ears, flashes of light in the eyes, phenomena which occur only when the patient is exposed to the carbon vapors, and which disappear after breathing a normal atmosphere.

After a variable time, according to the person and circumstances, the patient enters the second phase. To the above symptoms are added hallucinations and the delirium of persecution. The latter is vague, undecisive, and changeable. The hal-

lucinations are generally auditory or pertaining to the vision. Exceptionally, olfactory or gustatory.

The disease is curable if the patient is removed from the vitiated atmosphere, but more often it degenerates into an incurable dementia.

The question will arise with the reader if the author is not dealing with veritable cases of general paralysis caused by breathing an atmosphere of gases of carbon, rather than a distinctive disease, as Dr. Musso would have us believe. However this may be, we are indebted to him for calling the attention to these cases, and the possibility of such a condition arising in such an atmosphere.

Of the five cases reported, two recovered; the other three died. One occurred in a woman, the others in men who were bakers and shut up in small, close rooms with fires of charcoal.

GRACE PECKHAM.

Reflex Neuroses from Nasal Disease.—*Med. Record*, Jan 30, 1886.

An interesting discussion on this subject was lately introduced in the New York Academy of Medicine, by a paper by Dr. E. Gruening, on the "Ocular Symptoms in Nasal Affections." Following in the wake of Hack, Fraenkel, Sommerbrodt, and others, who have demonstrated a connection between many neuroses and disease of the mucous membrane of the inferior turbinated bone, Dr. Gruening thought that a certain group of ocular symptoms, namely, lachrymation, sensitiveness to light, and redness of the eyes, which are frequently met with and have resisted all ordinary treatment, might be dependent upon the same diseased conditions, especially as the same symptoms can be produced at will in all eyes by mechanical irritation of the nasal mucous membrane. In his paper he reports a series of such cases, a few of the large number he has met with, all cured by treatment of the nasal disease.

Dr. Thomas A. McBride reported five cases of reflex disturbance (hemicrania, headache, neuralgia) arising from nasal disease, and cured by treatment of the latter. Dr. Beverly Robinson followed, dwelling at some length on the connection between hay-fever and asthma and nasal disease. It will be remembered that Hack, of Freiburg, originally pointed out the connection between migraine, asthma, hay-fever, supra- and infra-orbital neuralgia, and other neuroses to disease of the covering of the inferior turbinated bone. Since then his results have been confirmed by a number of clinicians. Hack reported 240 cases of hemicrania and 87 of asthma cured by destroying the erectile tissue over the inferior turbinated bone with the galvano-cautery. Although experience shows that the nasal irritation may be due to various forms of nasal disease, the most common is a peculiar swollen, puffed-up (not hyperplastic) condition of the covering of the in-